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BULLETIN
OF THE
TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB.

Vol. VII.]

New York, May, 1880.

[No. 5.]

§ 37. **Proceedings of the Torrey Club.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Club was held at the School of Mines, Columbia College, Tuesday evening, May 11th, the President in the chair. There were present 28 members and 9 visitors.

Mr. S. Henshaw exhibited specimens of *Nepenthes Hookeri*, *Anthurium Scherzerianum*, and a large number of tropical orchids and ferns.

Mr. Le Roy exhibited a photograph of Thomas Nuttall; after which the President remarked briefly on the life and scientific labors of this naturalist.

The Herbarium Committee, through its chairman, Mr. Britton, reported that 210 specimens of plants had been received from Mr. Jos. Schrenck, and 75 specimens from Mr. F. Tweedy.

Mr. N. L. Britton was appointed a committee on "Field Days," with power to choose such assistants as he might desire.

Prof. Edward C. H. Day, of New York, was elected an active member.

According to previous announcement, Dr. J. S. Newberry delivered an interesting address on the "Ancient History of the North American Flora", and illustrated his remarks with a large number of fossil plants, which exhibited the successive changes undergone by our flora from the remotest up to the most recent geological times. Brief remarks on the subject of the paper were made by Messrs. Day and Leggett. On motion, the thanks of the Club were tendered Dr. Newberry for his interesting lecture, an abstract of which will appear in our next number.

§ 38. **The North Jersey Botanical Club.**—The first Field Meeting of the season was held at Little Falls, Passaic Co., N. J., on Saturday, May 8th. About forty members were present.

Lunch was taken at the Falls, after which a short business meeting was held, President Rusby in the chair. Arrangements were made for field meetings during the next month.

Among the "finds" were *Ranunculus repens*, L.; *Viola rostrata*, Pursh.; *Arabis lyrata*, L.; *Silene Pennsylvanica*, Michx.; *Phlox subulata*, L.; *Houstonia caerulea*, L.; *Erigeron bellidifolium*, Muhl.; *Viburnum Lentago*, L.; *Staphylea trifolia*, L.; *Aralia trifolia*, Gray; *Hydrophyllum Virginicum*, L.; *Polygonatum biflorum*, Ell.; *Vaccinium corymbosum*, L.; *Geranium maculatum*, L.; *Uvularia perfoliata*, L.; *U. sessilifolia*, L.; *Obolaria Virginica*, L.; *Orchis spectabilis*, L.; and *Cypripedium pubescens*, Willd.

While few of these plants are rare, yet all show that vegetation this year is from ten to twenty days in advance of its average at this season, and in this locality.

One of the members was fortunate enough to discover a last year's

scape of *Aplectrum hyemale*, Nutt., and undoubtedly the flowers can be obtained before long.

The next monthly meeting will be held at Millburn, Essex Co., on Saturday, June 12th.

WALTER M. WOLFE, *Secretary*.

Montclair, N. J., May 12th, 1880.

§ 39. **A New Fern.**—With some ferns collected in the Chiricahui and Oro Blanco mountains of South-eastern Arizona by Wm. M. Curtis, and placed in my hands by Prof. Gray, I find a new species of *Notholaena*, which I name in honor of one to whom I am indebted for many courtesies, and take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded to show my appreciation of them in this manner.

The other ferns collected by Mr. Curtis are *Gymnogramme hispida*, Mett., *Notholaena sinuata*, Klf., *Cheilanthes Wrightii*, Hooker, *Cheilanthes Lindheimeri*, Hooker, and *Pellaea Wrightiana*, Hooker.

Notholaena Grayi, *n. sp.*—Stipes tufted?, $1\frac{1}{4}$ – $3\frac{1}{2}$ ' long, terete, chestnut-brown, with nearly black, rigid, linear-acuminate scales below, paler, deciduous scales above; fronds 2'–4' in length, $\frac{3}{4}$ '– $1\frac{1}{4}$ ' broad, oblong-lanceolate, once, or twice pinnate, upper surface sparingly, under thickly covered with white powder; rachises brown like the stipes, coated with a granular substance, extending down the stipes, and clothed with long, slender, entire or ciliated pale or whitish scales; pinnae short-stalked, oblique, unequally triangular-ovate, ovate-lanceolate or lanceolate in different specimens (lowest pair nearly deltoid and distant, uppermost lanceolate), deeply pinnatifid, or pinnately divided into 1 or 2 pairs of short-stalked or sessile, oblong, pinnatifid, obtuse pinnules, the remaining portion obliquely pinnatifid with alternate, lobed or entire segments; margins unchanged, reflexed. Sori brown, in a continuous line at the ends of the free veins.

Hab. Mountains of South-eastern Arizona, growing in clumps on the grassy slopes of the foot-hills. Wm. M. Curtis. February or March, 1880.

A lovely fern, so different from any known species, that, notwithstanding the small amount of material at hand, there can scarcely be a doubt as to its distinct character. In structure it is not unlike *N. distans*, R. Br., but in that species the fronds are hairy, longer, and wholly destitute of powder. Its nearest affinity is with *N. affinis*, Hook., but it is separated from that species by its more compound fronds, and distinct scaly rachises. There is no other species with which it can be compared. Under the microscope, the white powder separates into distinctly stalked gland-like bodies with enlarged conical, flat or inverted heads like a miniature host of fungi with their variously shaped caps. With a power of 200 diameters, or even less, the scales of the frond appear to be composed of elongated, cylindrical, tapering tubes containing a light brown coloring matter, collected into a mass at the base, or in spots at intervals throughout the length of the otherwise whitish scales, which are thus made to appear jointed.

The species is one of the most elegant yet discovered, and I take